

And ... second beads

12 separating the nucleic acid precipitate from [a first] the second supernatant liquid;

adding a liquid to the nucleic acid precipitate to re-dissolve the nucleic acid and re-suspend the second beads;

46 applying a magnetic field to draw down the second beads and to form a third supernatant liquid containing the nucleic acid; and

separating [a second] the third supernatant liquid containing the nucleic acid from the beads.

6-27 The method as claimed in any one of claims ~~24, 25~~ ^{3, 4} and ~~26, 27~~ wherein all of the beads have been pre-treated with a phosphate solution to reduce the tendency of the beads to bind to a nucleic acid.--

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments adopt the suggestions of the Examiner set forth in the facsimile correspondence of August 2, 1995 to place the application condition for allowance.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone or facsimile number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. REEVE

By Walter W. Cheek Jr. 33367
for Matthew Jacob
Registration No. 25,154
Attorney for Applicants